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Justice Assistance News

Reagan Outlines Crime Control Strategy

"Controlling crime in American society is not simply a question of more money, more police, more courts, more prosecutors," says President Reagan.

"It is ultimately a moral dilemma—one that calls for a moral or spiritual solution.

"The war on crime will only be won when an attitude of mind and a change of heart take place in America—when certain truths take hold again and plant their roots deep into our national consciousness. Truths like: right and wrong matters; individuals are responsible for their actions; retribution should be swift and sure for those who prey upon the innocent."

Mr. Reagan, speaking before the annual convention of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, pledged to reform the exclusionary rule—which he said "rests on the absurd proposition that a law enforcement error, no matter how technical, can be used to justify throwing an entire case out of court, no matter how guilty the defendant or how heinous the crime," push for bail reform to permit judges to withhold bail in some circumstances, and support revision of the federal criminal code.

Although dealing with crime is primarily a state and local responsibility, Mr. Reagan said there are areas "where the federal government can take strong and effective action."

He pledged to use the "bully pulpit" of the presidency to remind the public

of the seriousness of crime, its causes, and those trying to fight it. And he said he will appoint a task force on the victims of crime to evaluate proposals to aid crime victims and witnesses and support legislation permitting restitution.

In addition, he outlined a federal narcotics enforcement strategy, including establishment of a Special Council on Narcotics Control consisting of the Attorney General and the Secretaries of State, Defense, Treasury, and others to coordinate efforts to stop the flow of illicit drugs into the country.

Mr. Reagan proposed a revision in the Posse Comitatus Act, which states

which authorities may exercise law enforcement powers. He said he favored an amendment that would allow the military to assist in enforcing drug laws.

He also called for mandatory prison terms for those who use handguns in committing a felony.

Federal prosecution efforts will focus on "sophisticated" forms of crime such as organized crime and public corruption, Mr. Reagan said. He endorsed revision of income tax laws to allow the Internal Revenue Service to turn over tax records for prosecution of organized crime figures and drug traffickers.

"The existence of syndicates of highly organized criminals and public officials who peddle their sacred trust are blots on American history," he said. "I can assure you, no Administration has ever been more anxious to work toward wiping away those blots."

In discussing these sophisticated crimes, Mr. Reagan noted the problem of career criminals—"those who make a conscious decision to pursue illicit professions, a decision based on a belief that crime does pay."

"The solution to the crime problem will not be found in the social worker's files, the psychiatrist's notes, or the bureaucrat's budget," he said.

"It is a problem of the human heart, and it is there we must look for the answers."



Cooperation: The Nation's Most Effective Weapon Against Crime

The following is excerpted from remarks by William H. Webster, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, before the International Association of Chiefs of Police in New Orleans.

As we proceed into the decade of the eighties, it is reasonably clear that resources will not be plentiful—wasteful duplication of services will be intolerable and a greater focus upon the true role of law enforcement in a federalist society will be essential to the faithful discharge of the heavy responsibilities entrusted to our care.

Flexibility will be an important key in this effort. For example, we have seen a 53 percent rise in bank robberies since 1977. Last year there was an 11 percent increase over 1979. And so far it looks like there will be another increase this year. Our bank robbery solution rate and convictions declined between 1976 and 1980.

As a result, we have re-examined our commitment in communities which need our help. A joint task force in New York City, combining federal investigators and New York City police detectives, has made heavy inroads in what was a sharply rising rate of bank robberies.

Nationally, federal bank robbery arrests and prosecutions are now on the upswing, and there has been a slight increase in the number of convictions.

Sometimes, the limitations in resources will mandate some hard, and occasionally unpopular, decisions. We recently had to make one such decision with respect to our fingerprint services to licensing agencies and others not directly a part of the law enforcement community. It was a painful decision.

Timeliness is vital to the effective operation of our criminal justice system. Despite our best efforts and your assistance, the workload in our fingerprint identification system has grown to an unmanageable level. We are currently facing a backlog of over 400,000 unprocessed fingerprint cards and an unacceptable average turnaround time of 27 workdays. This means wanted persons have been released before their true identities are known and criminal investigations and judicial processing are hampered. The adverse impact of this situation was underscored by the Attorney General's Task Force on Violent Crime with the recommendation that prompt remedial action be taken. Additional personnel resources are not expected for this purpose.

Accordingly, we have temporarily suspended the processing of noncriminal justice-related fingerprint cards. The one-year suspension period will enable us to eliminate the backlog and, in the end, improve our service to all users. This decision was not made lightly and stems from our commitment that the criminal justice community must receive top priority—given the seriousness of the nation's crime problem.

As you know, the Attorney General's Task Force on Violent Crime, has completed its report. The recommendations of the task force respect the separation of powers between the federal government and the states, but point out that there are a number of contributions the federal government can make in terms of assisting state and local officers—the “front line” troops—in waging this battle against violent crime.

Many of the recommendations parallel the types of support the FBI has been providing to your departments—support that is germane to the day-to-day responsibilities of law enforcement, as well as to the emergency situations in which a police department may become involved. These relate to training of state and local officers, forensic and technological research, exchange of criminal history information, interstate fugitive apprehensions, collection of arson statistics, and fingerprint identification services. We must harness the computer and other modern technology to serve our mission.



(continued on next page)

Some of the other recommendations echo the suggestions that I, and many of you, have been making for the past few years—fine tuning of the Freedom of Information Act, loosening the restrictions on the availability of income tax data for legitimate law enforcement purposes, reform of our bail system, and tougher enforcement efforts against those who traffic in illegal narcotics.

Perhaps no other area of law enforcement calls for concerted effort at all levels than the challenge to rid this nation of the scourge of narcotics and drug abuse.

Illicit products come into this country in incredible quantities, overwhelming the resources currently committed to their interdiction, feeding the giant profits of criminal networks and enterprises, generating corruption, violence, and tragedy.

The principal components of the federal effort must be the DEA and the FBI. We are already hard at work to achieve this goal. Throughout these efforts the theme has been: "How can we do it better together?" In the evolution of a joint strategy, there are now some 60 operations in which DEA agents and FBI agents are working together in important investigations. A special committee designated by the Attorney General is preparing to make specific recommendations to him on how best to make this long term effort succeed.

The President's program of interagency cooperation at the highest level to deal with the foreign aspect of this problem, the potential for badly needed military assistance to provide intelligence and help interdict the traffickers at our shores, and his full support for federal, state and local law enforcement signal a time to go on the offense—and I speak for us all when I say, "Mr. President, we are on board."

Finally, no strategy will be complete if we ignore the millions of good citizens who want to help us in our work.

Law enforcement cannot do it alone. Across this land we find citizens asking how they can help—let us tell them.

We don't need vigilante groups; we need, instead, vigilant citizens who understand law enforcement, know our police officers as human beings, respect us, trust us—who will, in short, provide windows of understanding to our communities. The Two Hundred Clubs, Crusade Against Crime, the Backstoppers, the Law Enforcement Explorer Scouts, the Victims of Crime organizations, all of these volunteer organizations must be encouraged and nurtured and will pay high dividends in more effective community-based support for our efforts.

These, as I see it, are some of the problems which face all of us, and we need to cooperate as we seek to solve these problems. Cooperation also must exist on a one-to-one basis among officers and departments. It is sometimes best demonstrated when an "officer needs help" call is broadcast. Recently, we had such a situation in our Atlanta office when a gunman forced his way into our office and took nine of our support employees hostage. A team of our agents and officers of the Atlanta Police Department were assembled. Working as a team and at a great personal risk, the agents and officers were successful in rescuing all of our employees. We are thankful for this cooperation and the cooperation that you extend to us on a daily basis.

The FBI's commitment to cooperation is best expressed by a statement in brass which now appears in the courtyard at FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C. The statement is a quotation from J. Edgar Hoover and it declares:

"The most effective weapon against crime is cooperation..."

AROUND the NATION

NEWARK, N.J.—Police foot patrols decrease citizen fear of crime and feelings of safety and mobility in neighborhoods, but do not reduce or prevent according to a study of the Newark, N.J., Police Department conducted by the Foundation. Measures to test the effects of foot patrols included reported crime arrest records, victimization surveys, and public opinion surveys of rates of crime and satisfaction with police services. The evaluators also tested the views of both foot and motor patrol officers and found that "generally, foot patrol officers are more satisfied with police work. They have a more benign view of citizens' absenteeism record, and a more community-oriented view of the police function. They caution that "where foot patrol is staffed by volunteers, it could be that the volunteers are a select group who enter foot patrol with the attitude noted." The "Newark Foot Patrol Experiment," is available from the Community Foundation, Police Foundation, 1909 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. Price is \$8.00.

\$3.5 Million Awarded

Program Will Treat Violent Juvenile Offenders

A five-city experimental program designed to examine promising methods for treating and rehabilitating chronic violent juvenile offenders was launched last month with the selection of cities to receive \$3.5 million from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).

The program will focus on youth who have committed such violent crimes as murder, kidnapping, armed robbery, rape, and arson of an occupied building.

Contracts of \$700,000 each will go to set up 18-month projects in Memphis, Tennessee; Newark, New Jersey; Boston, Massachusetts; Denver, Colorado; and Phoenix, Arizona. These sites were chosen, after a competitive bidding process, from the 49 U.S. cities with the highest numbers of arrests for violent crimes.

The projects are an effort to learn more about young people with repetitive violent behavior patterns, how to counter these patterns, and how to improve the juvenile justice system's ability to deal with violent delinquents.

Hard Core Offenders

Most youths will be assigned to the project directly after juvenile court adjudication. They must be repeat felony offenders and the project guidelines state specifically that no youth may be excluded from participation on the basis of being "too difficult to handle." The project will deal exclusively with youth considered to be hard core repeat violent offenders.

Continuity in case management will be emphasized. One caseworker will be assigned to follow the progress of each juvenile to make sure that services and treatment provided in a secure facility are continued after the juvenile is returned to the community.

At each site between 40 and 80 violent juvenile offenders will be randomly assigned, usually by a juvenile or family court judge, to the experimental project. In almost all cases they will be in a "secure" juvenile facility at the beginning of the project. The program is designed so that by the end of the project most of the youth will have been returned to their home communities.

Each youth will be put through a diagnostic assessment and planning process. This will address the individual's physical

and psychological condition, potential job skills, education status, and problems concerning substance abuse, sex, and learning disabilities.

Families will be involved and there will be a "performance contract" signed by the youth, the family, and the project worker which will specify agreed-upon goals.

Each youth will receive a complete physical and dental examination upon entering the program. Mental health treatment will be available to those needing it. There will be individual and family counseling. Educational services will be aimed at helping youth strengthen their life skills and the skills they will need to support themselves.

Job Training

Program youths will be given job training skills and help in learning how to apply for jobs and acquiring good work habits. The youth will be given help in finding jobs after release from secure care.

They will also be given assistance in finding living arrangements either in their own home or in some alternative setting and in how to develop constructive leisure-time activities to help them avoid future criminal behavior.

The National Council on Crime and Delinquency will monitor the performance of each project. In addition, each project will receive extensive technical assistance in program start-up and ongoing operations and procedures from the National Organization for Social Responsibility (NOSR).

The URSA Institute, a San Francisco-based research organization, will track the progress of each youth. It will evaluate each project and the program as a whole as to its degree of success in preventing subsequent violent crime in youths participating in the program, and improving the juvenile justice system's ability to deal effectively with violent young offenders.

A second part of the program, which is being developed separately, will focus on prevention of violent juvenile crime by community-based organizations. ■



Program youths will be given job training and placement assistance.

BJS Survey Shows 1981 Prison Population Is Mushrooming

The U.S. prison population grew by more than 20,000 inmates during the first half of 1981, adding more prisoners than during all of 1980, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

On June 30, 1981, state and federal prisons held almost 350,000 men and women, compared to less than 330,000 last December 31. The 6.2 percent increase was equivalent to an annual growth rate of 12.8 percent. Last year the annual rate was 4.5 percent, and it was only about 2 percent during 1979 and 1978, a bureau bulletin noted. If this trend continues, this year's annual rate will exceed the 10 percent record increase set in 1975. (Recordkeeping began in 1925.)

Almost 19,000 of the increase were additions to state prison populations, the bulletin said. To cope with this influx, state officials had to resort to housing prisoners in tents and prefabricated buildings and to double-bunking and early release. Some state institutions now house about twice their rated capacities. Other states have had to rely heavily on space in local jails, the bureau said.

Federal Trend Reversed

The number of federal prisoners rose by 1,370 during the first half of 1981, which reverses a trend that had cut this population by 25 percent beginning in 1978. "Federal authorities attributed this

change to more aggressive law enforcement at the federal level and to a more conservative federal parole policy," the bulletin said.

Texas, which has the largest state prison system in the country, had more than 30,000 inmates last June 30, adding more than 1,000 prisoners since last December 31. The state now has 4,400 more prisoners than it did 18 months ago and has had to put many in tents or have them sleep on prison floors.

The three other state prison systems that already had 20,000 or more inmates, California, Florida, and New York, also have had large gains thus far in 1981.

California and New York both added more than 2,000 prisoners, and Florida added 850, the bureau said. It added that California and New York have recently enacted laws mandating incarceration for convictions involving certain violent offenses and drug charges. California also has a habitual offender statute that requires imprisonment for career criminals.

Other large increases included Georgia (1,200), Alabama (1,000), Ohio (1,000), and Indiana (900). Since December 31, 1979, Alabama's prison population has increased by 27 percent, which state officials attribute to a sharp crime rate increase in the state as well as to less frequent probation use, the bulletin said, adding:

"Indiana, one of the states to abolish parole completely, has an inmate population that grew by 34 percent" during the last 18 months "and now faces what state officials call a crisis. Indiana state prison officials are admitting 100 more inmates each month than they release, and most state institutions are now at double their rated capacity."

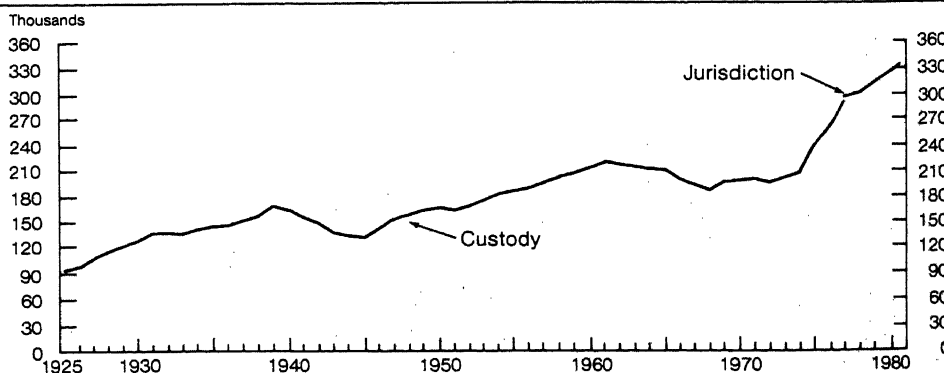
Rates Vary Greatly

The bulletin noted that record increases in prison populations are accompanied by record incarceration rates, pointing out that the country now imprisons 147 persons for every 100,000 in the general population. However, it added, incarceration rates vary greatly among the states, "reflecting a wide range of factors," including the degree of urbanization, the age-sex composition of the population, and social, economic, and cultural influences. For example, it said, as of last June Vermont's incarceration rate was 39 per 100,000 whereas North Carolina's was 256.

The bureau said that the rate of increase for female prisoners during the first six months of 1981 was 10.6 percent, compared to 6.2 percent for all persons. At midyear the number of female inmates was 14,656, which was a gain of 1,400 since last December 31. However, women constitute only 4.2 percent of the total prison population.

To obtain copies of the bulletin, "Prisoners at Midyear 1981," or to be added to the Bureau of Justice Statistics mailing list, write the bureau in Washington, D.C. 20531.

Number of sentenced State and Federal prisoners, yearend 1925 - midyear 1981



Note: Prior to 1979, NPS reports were based on the custody population. Beginning in 1978, focus is on the jurisdiction population. Both figures are shown for 1977 to facilitate year-to-year comparison.

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Environmental Improvements Reduced Commercial

An experimental project to cut crime through environmental design reduced commercial burglaries 55 percent and contributed to an improvement in the "quality of life" in a Portland, Oregon, neighborhood, according to an NIJ report.

The study said the burglary rate along the one mile mixed residential-commercial area was 13.5 per month in 1975, two years after the start of the project. In 1977, the rate dropped to six per month and had remained at six per month in 1979, two years after the close of the project.

The report attributed the decline to a combined security survey and street lighting program implemented as part of the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design program (CPTED).

Security Improved

Other major findings:

- The physical security and, to a lesser extent, the physical appearance of the Union Avenue corridor, the site of the program, were improved as a result of

CPTED efforts. The program was most successful in increasing the area's control and surveillability.

- Social cohesion among business people along the strip was increased, but there was little positive change among the residential community adjacent to the strip.

- Besides the reduction in commercial burglaries, other crime decreases were not significant. In general, crime conditions on the corridor stabilized during the two-year period following the official end of the demonstration project.

- Fear of crime among business people and residents generally did not change, except for the elderly, who the report said became more fearful. The report said, however, that the increased fear by the elderly was not warranted by the crime rate in the area.

- The quality of life along the corridor had increased as measured by steadily improving economic conditions, with stabilization occurring in the two years. Residential impact was less, with little change in the two years since the original

evaluation. One indication of an improved quality of life, the study said, was that property values in the area continued to rise at the same rate as in other parts of the city.

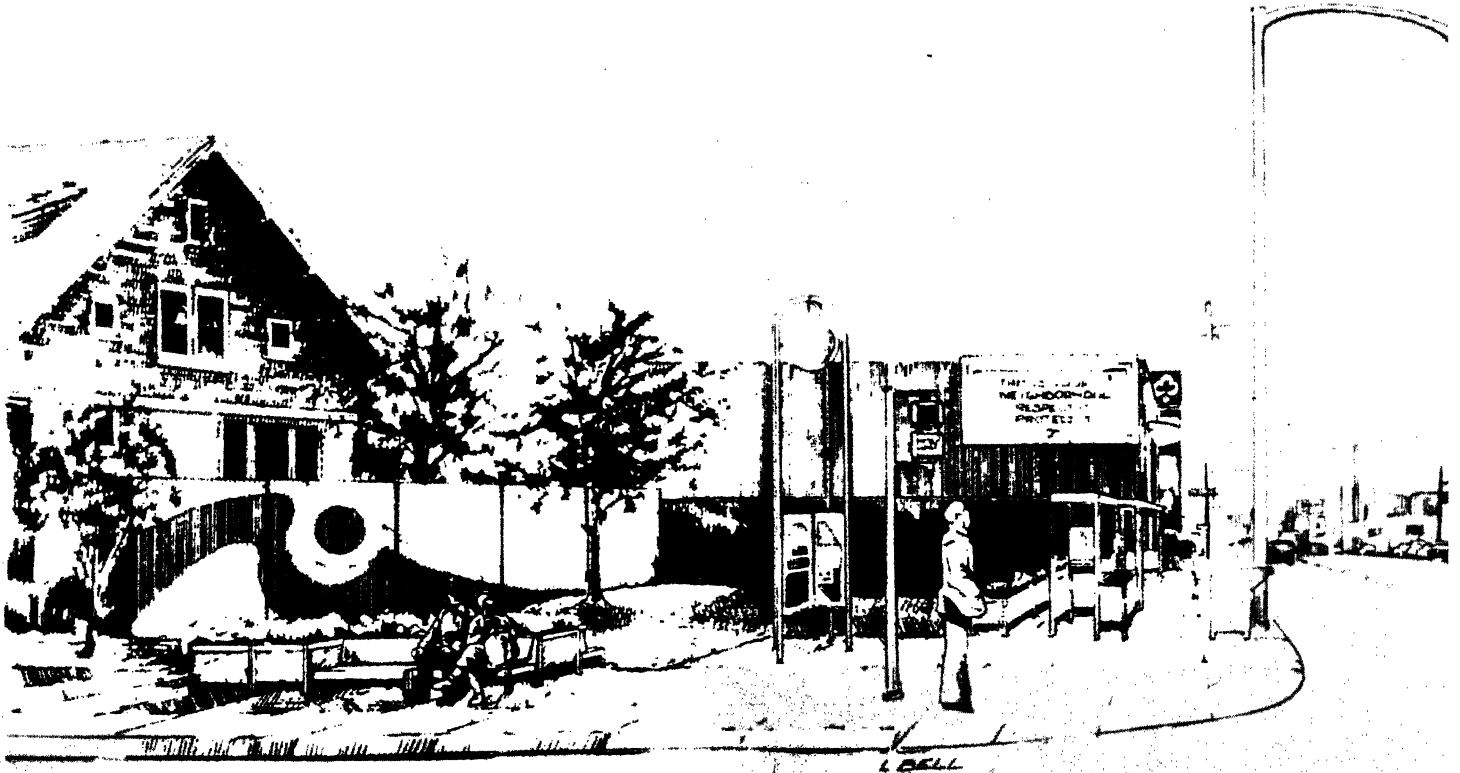
Starting in 1973, the National Institute of Justice made grants to a consortium of criminologists, social scientists, architects, and urban planners headed by the Westinghouse Electric Corporation as contract manager.

Objectives Met

The task force set three objectives for the corridor—reduce crime, reduce fear of crime, and improve the quality of life.

After working with city officials for a year, Westinghouse developed a demonstration plan calling for the redesign of certain streets and intersections, improved lighting, and special public transportation for the elderly and handicapped.

The plan also called for improved police patrols, making available a storefront police security advisor and installing new, well-illuminated bus shelters.



This "mini-plaza" is one of the design improvements made on the Union Avenue corridor.

Burglaries 55%

In 1977, Westinghouse evaluated the project and concluded that the "Portland effort was a reasonable program success."

Among the findings was a significant decrease in reported commercial burglaries and the feeling that there was some movement toward a better quality of their lives (as reflected by the conditions of schools, parks, streets, and neighborhoods) was fairly good.

The first evaluation also showed that there was no discernible reduction in the fear of crime and no significant reduction in street crime associated with the street lighting program.

To learn which aspects of the program had lasting effects, NIJ awarded \$99,000 to the Portland Office of Justice Planning and Evaluation for a follow-up evaluation. The study said there was some disillusionment within the business community with regard to the length of time the project ultimately took for completion. Also, there was a deterioration of a positive attitude toward the police in the black community. Overall, though, the report found, citizens generally supported the police.

Lasting Results

Richard Rau, project monitor for the study, said the most successful strategies or interventions that achieved the most positive and lasting results were the security advisory services, the organization of the business community, and the street lighting program.

"Future programs can integrate these and other CPTED concepts into existing community operations," Mr. Rau said. "Crime prevention can be grafted onto existing business and neighborhood organizations and economic development efforts."

Mr. Rau emphasized that one important lesson learned in the experiment is that other cities trying to replicate the program should design their efforts along a realistic time frame.

"The results suggest that major environmental and economic revitalization requires four or five years," he said. The study has not yet been published. It will be printed early next year by the Government Printing Office. Draft copies of the executive summary are available, on loan, from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, Box 6000, Rockville, Maryland 20850. ■



AWARD PRESENTED—OJARS Acting Director Robert F. Diegelman (left) presents a public service award to Patricia Carbine, chairman of the Advertising Council's Board of Directors, in appreciation of the Council's sponsorship of the "Take a Bite Out of Crime" advertising campaign. The award cited the Council's "commitment to improving the quality of life in America" and its "leadership and outstanding contributions" to the National Citizens Crime Prevention Coalition campaign.



Publications



International Summaries: A Collection of Selected Translations in Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, published by the National Criminal Justice Reference Service. To order, write: NCJRS, Box 6000, Rockville, Maryland 20850

National Analysis of Official Child Neglect and Abuse Reporting, published by The American Humane Association. The cost is \$1.00. To order, write: The National Study on Child Neglect and Abuse Reporting, The American Humane Association, 9725 East Hampden, Denver, Colorado 80231.

Domestic Violence: An NCJW Response, published by the Women's Issues Task Force of the National Council of Jewish Women. The cost is \$3.50.

To order, write: Order Department, National Council of Jewish Women, 15 E. 26th Street, New York, N.Y. 10010.

Police Stress: A Selected Bibliography Concerning Police Stress and the Psychological Evaluation and Counseling of Police, by C.J. Matthews; **Congestion and Delay in the Criminal Courts: A Selected Bibliography**, by C.J. Matthews and D.E. Chunn; and **Screening Procedures for the Detection or Prediction of Child Abuse: An Annotated Bibliography**, by M.B. Farnell, all published by the University of Toronto's Centre of Criminology. The cost is \$2.50 each. To order, write: Publications Office, Centre of Criminology, University of Toronto, 130 St. George Street, Toronto, Canada M5S1A1. ■

Delinquency Prevention Programs

total included 2,569 whites, 2,415 blacks, 1,250 Hispanics, 99 Asians, 43 American Indians, and 36 others.

Approximately one-third of the youths were referred by the courts or police, with the other two-thirds recruited off the streets by outreach programs in high crime neighborhoods. About 20 percent of the teenagers in the program had been arrested at least once—usually for a misdemeanor or status offenses.

Mr. Badger said that 1,224 teenagers received leadership and job training, and 600 teenagers obtained jobs through the project's efforts.

Each city developed its own approach:

In Asbury Park, the Monmouth Boys Club focused on recruiting first-time offenders into regular club programs. A community network to increase first-time offender intervention was introduced by the club and resulted in a communitywide effort at the secondary prevention level.

Counseling was emphasized in the club's residential group home.

In Bridgeport, the "learn and earn" approach taught job and leadership skills to Hispanic youths and provided in-club work experience opportunities and educational evaluation.

In Las Cruces, program emphasis was on working with the families of club members. This resulted in regular staff visits to the homes of club members and the sponsorship of family night activities at the club.

In Schenectady, the Craig Street Branch Boys Club implemented a multi-service approach involving over a dozen local community agencies acting in unison to help the youth.

Innovative Approach

Some programs were highly innovative. In Omaha, it was noted that there were some 200 deaf teenagers in the area, yet not one belonged to a boys club. As part of a restitution project, an imaginative juvenile judge sentenced several teen-

agers who spoke and heard normally to attend sign language school.

"Once they mastered sign language," Mr. Badger said, "they went out in the streets and recruited a number of deaf boys into the club and then became their big brothers."

In Richmond, California, the club's approach centered on recruiting and working with members of the Black Lords, a delinquent youth gang. At one point, club officials complained to national club headquarters that some of the kids were coming to club meetings carrying guns, knives, and chains.

"We had a talk with them," Mr. Badger said, "and they came to a meeting and turned in seven guns to us. We asked no questions and put the seven guns in a paper bag, gave the bag to the Richmond Police Department, and nothing was said again." The Black Lords eventually became part of the Keystone Club—a teenage service club sponsored by the Boys Clubs of America.

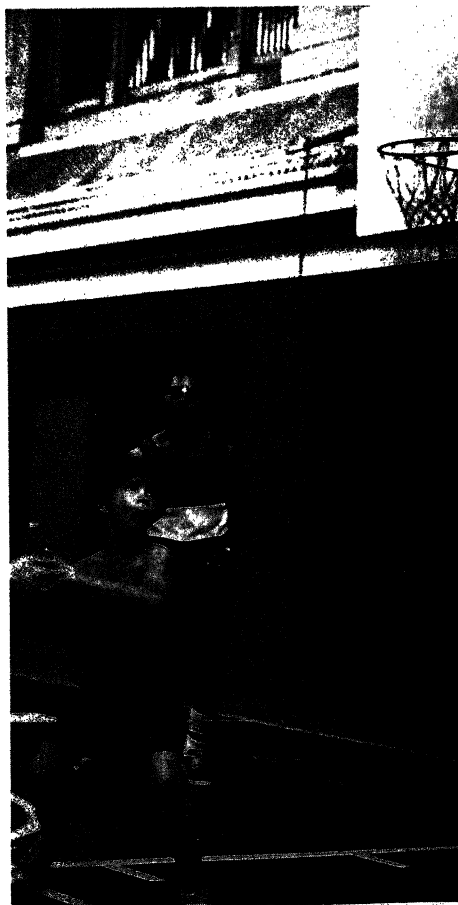
Idea Spreading

William R. Bricker, national director of the Boys Clubs of America, a strong advocate of prevention programs, said that not only has funding for most of the existing clubs now been picked up locally, but that the idea is being replicated in many other cities.

"Major initiatives are now under way in Michigan, South Carolina, Oregon, and California," Mr. Bricker said. "These prevention programs are economical and cost effective. It costs \$24,000 per year to maintain a youth in a correctional facility. The cost to OJJDP for this project is \$46 per year per juvenile, plus a local match of \$180 per person."

The other cities involved in the program included: Bradenton, Florida; Peoria, Illinois; Portland, Maine; Garfield, New Jersey; Kingsport, Tennessee; Salt Lake City, Utah; Aberdeen, South Dakota; Bellevue Washington; Santa Barbara, Hayward, Newall, San Pablo, Marin City, and San Francisco, all in California; Iowa City, Nebraska; and Rotterdam, Endicott, Syracuse, and Owego, all in New York.

Copies of the final report are available by writing: John Badger, Program Director for Juvenile Justice, Boys Clubs of America, 771 First Avenue, New York, New York 10017.



service, peer leadership training, and motivational programs.

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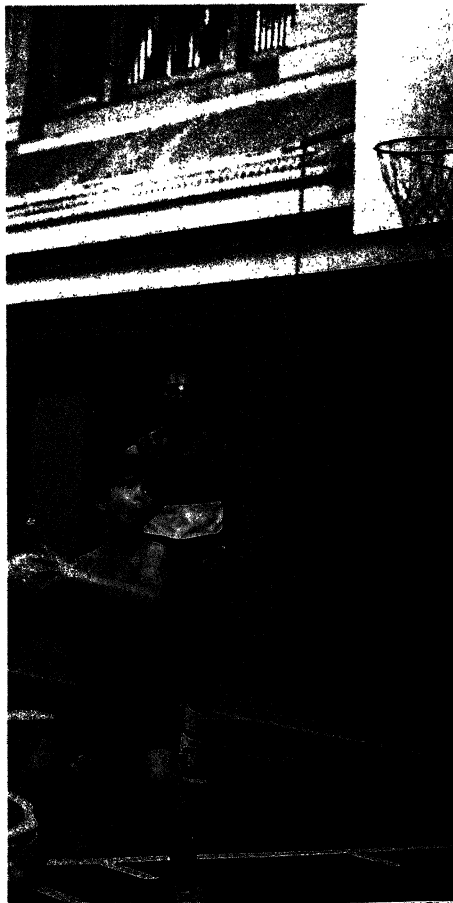
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Research Briefs

National Institute of Justice

FOCUS

NIJ Project Explores Research Issues on Misdemeanor Courts

The impact of defense counsel on misdemeanor courts, the severity of misdemeanor punishments, and a system for managing misdemeanor cases are among the subjects of a two-volume report published by the National Institute of Justice.

Conducted jointly by the American Judicature Society and the Institute for Court Management, the project examined a variety of research topics pertaining to the functions and operations of misdemeanor courts and assessed two innovative programs in four courts.

Misdemeanor courts have received little attention by researchers, the study said. Empirical studies have expanded knowledge about the inner workings of the felony courts, but similar information on misdemeanor courts is lacking. "Not only do we know very little about misdemeanor courts," the authors state, "we also have a poor sense of what we need to know."

Even such key issues as the impact of Supreme Court rulings on the right to counsel and the use of fines have yet to be assessed adequately, the study reported.

As a result, procedural or administrative reforms often have been urged on misdemeanor courts without sufficient evidence of their necessity, the study contends. Many observers, for example, have recommended reforms for improving the disposition speed of misdemeanor cases. But despite the typically heavy caseload of misdemeanor courts, the authors report, some evidence indicates that case backlog is not a problem in many of the lower courts.

Another question with important policy ramifications is the impact of defense counsel representation on misdemeanor court operations. The issue is reflected in Supreme Court decisions extending the right of counsel to misdemeanor defendants

in *Argersinger v. Hamlin* (1972)

in *Scott v. Illinois* (1979),

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disposition as well as judicial perceptions of caseload burden, the project surveyed a national sample of misdemeanor judges.

Based on the judges' responses, the NIJ study concluded that rates of guilty pleas are somewhat lower in courts where defense counsel are frequently present. This finding is consistent with the other studies on this topic, which reveal a slightly more favorable outcome for the defendant who is represented by counsel.

Based on judicial perceptions of case processing, the study also concluded that increased defense representation tends to "stretch out" the adjudication process. In terms of efficiency, a more protracted process may be viewed as undesirable, the authors state. But it also may suggest a more careful attention to cases, thus countering persistent criticisms of misdemeanor case processing as "assembly line" justice.

The survey also revealed that the "stretching out" process was most troublesome to judges in rural area courts, where the caseload is less acute than in urban area courts. "This suggests that the rural area courts may have more difficulty accommo-

dating themselves to the more frequent presence of defense counsel than the urban area courts," the report concluded.

Another issue addressed by the NIJ project was the degree of hardship posed by the adjudication process and the punishments imposed by misdemeanor courts.

Under the NIJ project, researchers examined the case processing and sentencing of misdemeanants in the Franklin County (Columbus), Ohio, municipal court.

Punishments imposed by the Franklin County court were considered relatively severe by the researchers, especially when contrasted with the sanctions levied in the New Haven, Conn., Circuit Court, as reported in another research study. That study concluded that any punishment experienced by New Haven misdemeanants resulted from the time and inconvenience of repeated court appearances and other aspects of the adjudication process, rather than from any sanctions that might be imposed.

In Columbus, nearly three-fourths of the net fines exceeded \$50, but in New Haven only 4 percent of the fines were greater than \$50.



NIJ research reports on case management, sentencing and other issues facing misdemeanor courts.

More than one-third of Columbus misdemeanants were required to serve some time in jail, compared to 8 percent of the New Haven misdemeanants.

A different mix of cases accounts partly for the contrasts between the two courts. Drunk driving cases comprised the largest portion of the Columbus caseload and almost always resulted in a conviction and frequently a jail term as well. But these cases were not even heard in the New Haven court. Nevertheless, even across a range of similar cases in the two courts, "a defendant in Columbus stands a much higher likelihood of incarceration, if convicted," the study reported.

These differences between the two courts provide additional evidence of the diversity of misdemeanor courts across the nation.

Drawing upon 1972 census surveys of the nation's misdemeanor courts, the NIJ study reported that 61 percent of the lower courts handle both civil and criminal cases, whereas 11 percent deal only with civil cases, and the remaining 28 percent handle criminal misdemeanors exclusively.

Sentence severity varies widely as well, ranging from a maximum jail sentence of three months in one state to two to seven years in seven states. In most states the maximum jail term is one year.

Additional differences among the states emerged from the project's survey of judges. Adjudication practices, the presence or absence of defense attorneys, plea negotiation, and the legal training of judges all vary among jurisdictions.

In some jurisdictions, defendants are seldom represented by counsel, judges are non-lawyers, and many cases are disposed of in a perfunctory manner—by guilty plea at first appearance—the study said.

By contrast, the practices in other jurisdictions more closely resemble the adversarial nature of felony courts. Defendants are represented by defense counsel, and cases are heard by a lawyer-judge and also prosecuted by an attorney, rather than a police officer. Fewer cases are disposed of at an initial phase in the adjudication process. Many of these jurisdictions also use presentence reports and assign defendants to probation.

The effect of such diversity on the quality of justice in misdemeanor courts is largely unknown, the study reported. Nor are the cause-and-effect relationships clear—for example, whether the types of cases in a particular jurisdiction influence the court's practices.

The NIJ project also implemented new management techniques in several courts. In Corpus Christi, Tex., and Mankato, Minn., a simple, manual system for keeping track of misdemeanor cases was installed.

Focusing on the Mankato test site, the research team reported that the system not only resulted in a closer monitoring of cases but also affected the roles of the participants.

Before the case information system was installed, Mankato court clerks and judges did not know what information each party needed to effectively perform their respective roles.

After the manual card system was instituted, a resulting change in procedures corrected a former problem of many failure-to-appear cases languishing "off" the calendar, or disappearing altogether.

The system also pinpointed instances of case delay, which formerly had not been recognized as a problem. As a result, the disposition time for the "oldest" 10 percent of serious misdemeanor cases declined from 193 to 170 days. A sharper reduction from 215 days to 170 days occurred for the "oldest" 10 percent of the petty misdemeanor cases. Of the various types of cases, the disposition pace for 80 percent of the drunk driving cases showed the greatest improvement, declining from a minimum of 221 days to 120 days.

The report *Misdemeanor Courts: Policy Concerns and Research Perspectives* reviews the NIJ-sponsored research on topics related to misdemeanor courts. The other volume, *Misdemeanor Courts: Designs for Change*, describes several procedural reforms, including the case management information system in Mankato, Minn.

Under a recent NIJ award, the American Judicature Society is expanding their research on the Franklin County (Ohio) Municipal Court by comparing the study results with sentencing practices in three other jurisdictions. The study will be completed in early 1982.

Establishing measures of reliability for arson detectors

"Sniffers" are the geiger counters of arson detection. Signalling the presence of fire accelerants, a properly functioning sniffer provides the first clue of an arsonist's work. But a contaminated sniffer, or one that's not up to par, means that a suspected case of arson escapes detection.

Under NIJ's technology assessment program, the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) has devised a method for calibrating the portable vapor detectors. The Bureau also has developed performance standards for the devices.

At the scene of a fire, the sniffers sample the air for flammable vapors that come from substances such as gasoline, kerosene, or paint thinner—the arsonist's stock-in-trade.

If the detector's sensing device signals the presence of suspicious vapors, samples of nearby debris likely to contain an accelerant are collected and sent to a laboratory for analysis.



"Sniffers" sample the debris from a fire for evidence of arson.

Research Briefs

National Institute of Justice

An indispensable tool in fire investigations, sniffers can become contaminated through exposure to lead particles particularly, or simply through constant use.

The calibration method developed by the NBS Center for Fire Research will keep the sniffers functioning at consistent levels of performance. And the performance standards will dictate the levels of hydrocarbon vapor that commercially-available sniffers should be capable of detecting. Together, the two products will give arson investigators a means of checking the performance of their detectors as well as a set of guidelines for selecting the most reliable devices on the market.

The manual on the calibration method will be available in the fall—on sale from the Government Printing Office. The performance standards for vapor detectors will be published in 1982.

Announcements

NIJ announces criminal justice training packages

Training packages on advanced criminal justice practices are now available through NIJ's Research Utilization Program.

The packages are designed for in-service training programs and courses on criminal justice practices.

The topics in the training series were originally the subjects of NIJ-sponsored research utilization workshops, which present the latest state-of-the-art in research and evaluation findings. The training packages were continuously refined, based on evaluations by hundreds of practitioners and state and local officials who participated in the workshops.

Topics of the training packages are:

- Developing Sentencing Guidelines
- Health Care in Correctional Institutions
- Improving Probation Strategies
- Juror Usage and Management
- Maintaining Municipal Integrity

- Managing Criminal Investigations
- Managing Patrol Operations
- Mental Health in Jails
- Operating a Defender's Office
- Prison Grievance Mechanisms

In addition to a trainer's handbook and a student workbook, each package contains a videotape of presentations by noted criminal justice authorities. A book of readings and a model program manual are also included in each series.

The complete package is available at a cost of \$125. Student materials can be ordered in bulk at reduced rates.

Additional information on the training material and how to order it is available from the Research Utilization Program, Suite 1600, 5530 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20015.

NIJ to test police response system

Police departments in Toledo, Ohio, Greensboro, N.C., and Garden Grove, Calif., will field test a system for differential response to calls for service under a recent NIJ award.

The test sites will implement a system for classifying and prioritizing calls for service and determining the most appropriate police response. Because the test focuses on alternatives to the traditional dispatch of a patrol car, the test sites will implement a variety of possible responses to non-critical calls, such as taking reports by appointment, requiring telephone or walk-in reports from citizens, or using civilians—instead of sworn personnel—to take reports of noncrime incidents. Specialized training for communications personnel is also part of the program.

The new system, as well as the requirements for planning, implementation, and data collection, are detailed in a test design developed by an NIJ team headed by the Office of Development, Testing, and Dissemination.

The test will be assessed by an independent evaluation team funded by NIJ's Office of Program Evaluation. Among the questions to be addressed by the evaluators are the effects of alternative responses on the efficient delivery of police services. The impact of the system on police officers' workload as well as



Field sites will test a call classification system with prescribed responses.

any resulting shift in focus to additional crime-related activities also will be addressed. Citizen satisfaction with the approach will be assessed as well.

The test of alternative response systems is one of six field experiments currently under way throughout the country with NIJ support. The field test program critically examines the operations and effects of innovative crime control projects under varying local conditions.

Policymakers and practitioners in the participating communities receive training and technical assistance in implementing the test design, skills that enable the jurisdiction to continue operating the program if the test results are positive.

Following evaluation of the field test, NIJ weighs the findings to determine whether the model program is suitable for wider adoption or whether further research on the concept is required. Where results warrant, NIJ publishes a Program Guide reviewing the effects of the field experiment and the lessons learned for other communities that may adopt the program.

Findings

Upgrade police complaint operators, study urges

The police operator plays a crucial role in shaping police responses to calls and influencing public attitudes toward the police, an NIJ study reports.

Examining more than 26,000 calls to the police in three metropolitan

jurisdictions, the study found that police operators took charge of nearly 50 percent of the calls—supplying information directly to callers or referring or transferring them to other police department units or community agencies. A patrol unit was dispatched in response to the other one-half of the calls.

Operators are thus the initial—and sometimes only—point of citizen contact with the police, the study reports. Indeed, operators “are the police” for a sizable proportion of the population seeking assistance, the report adds.

But the study found that this communications role was often assigned to the least experienced personnel in the department. “Too often, operators are poorly trained, underpaid, or on temporary assignment (often as a result of disciplinary action),” the study said.

These conclusions stem from the study’s examination of police responses to calls for service in Rochester, N.Y., St. Louis, Mo., and Tampa-St. Petersburg, Fla.

The focus of the study was police referral of non-crime calls, a topic related to other NIJ research on alternative police responses. Because of the demand for police services that are not related directly to crime prevention, various NIJ studies have examined alternatives to the traditional response of immediately dispatching a patrol car. Referring some police calls to other agencies is one alternative, particularly for cases where the necessary services are not ordinarily provided by law enforcement units.

To learn of existing police referral practices, the study examined patrol officer contacts with citizens as well as citizen calls for police service.

Police officers on patrol duty referred only 5 percent of encounters involving citizens to departmental or community services. Referral sources were *recommended* in another 7 percent of the encounters.

Of the total calls to the police departments, telephone operators referred 16 percent of them to departmental units or community agencies. Another 4 percent of the callers were connected directly to the appropriate agencies.

Classified by type of assistance, requests for information comprised the greatest proportion—21

percent—of the total calls for service. Police departments rarely log these calls, the study noted, because the dispatch of a patrol unit is unnecessary.

Other requests for police services included calls for assistance—12 percent, public nuisances—11 percent, and traffic problems—9 percent. These and other non-crime incidents comprised 81 percent of the total calls.

Of the remaining calls for service, 17 percent were reports of non-violent crimes, and the rest—2 percent—comprised violent incidents.

The high proportion of non-crime calls recorded by this study corroborates the findings of related NIJ research on the patterns of citizen requests for police services. “If calls for service (rather than radio dispatches) are considered a measure of departmental activity,” the study reports, “the crime-fighting role of the police is indeed a small percentage of total activity.”

Since delivery of police services is directed largely toward non-crime incidents, the complaint operator necessarily assumes a variety of responsibilities, not all directly related to law enforcement. Serving as an information broker is one role. In addition, police operators exercise considerable discretion in the routing of calls. Despite the heavy volume of rapid decisions that must be made and the resulting burden of responsibility, few departments have instituted training programs for police operators, the study reported. The report recommends training courses for communications personnel to learn about departmental policies and regulations, the appropriate community agencies for handling referrals, and the appropriate treatment of callers.

To explore possible reasons for the relatively few referrals by patrol officers, the study interviewed 1,400 police officers. Only 15 percent felt that referral was a “waste of time.” Moreover, fully three-fourths of the respondents said they “routinely” referred citizens to agencies, which could mean a referral made every day or once a month depending on the officer’s interpretation of “routine.” In terms of the officer’s discretion, the study also noted that the small number of police referrals may be a

perfectly appropriate rate of response, given the range of police/citizen encounters.

Instead of an ad hoc approach to referral, police departments should develop guidelines for situations where referral is appropriate. These guidelines should include a list of existing community agencies, their hours of operation, and the kinds of services provided.

The report also recommends that police departments revamp their call classification system according to the type of service requested rather than by departmental function. This would enable departments to analyze their responses and then possibly design alternatives, thus freeing up officers’ time to focus more on crime-fighting activities. An NIJ field test of differential police responses (see preceding story) will test this and similar recommendations from related police research on citizen calls for service.



Police departments should develop guidelines for cases where referral is appropriate, NIJ study contends.

In addition, the report recommends further research to assess the feasibility of referral, especially in situations where the police must interpret existing statutes. Police need to know when a citizen can be referred to an alcoholic treatment center or should be charged with disorderly nuisance and sent to jail, for example.

The summary report, *Police Referral in Metropolitan Areas*, is available from GPO. Detailed findings of the research are reported in the volumes *Calls for Service: Citizen Demand and Initial Police Response* and *Patterns of Police-Referral Agency Interaction*, also available from GPO.

Views In The News

FACING THE FACTS: "Prison reform advocates say that non-violent offenders should be diverted from prison..."

"But the theory doesn't conform to reality. More people are going to prison and going for longer terms..."

"So long as more and more people are headed for prison, the melancholy fact is that more prisons must be built..."

"A recent U.S. Department of Justice study reported that prisoners subjected to overcrowding have a higher death and suicide rate than inmates confined in less-crowded conditions. Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, long a supporter of prison reform, has often noted the connection between overcrowding in prisons and prison uprisings."

"The public temper, aroused by the increase in crime, supports more vigorous law enforcement, sending more people to prison and confining them for longer terms. And this, in essence, is the heart of the anti-crime program recommended by the federal task force."

"Critics of this approach doubt it will have any significant effect on the crime rate so long as the social factors in crime are neglected, but there is little doubt that more people will be heading toward prison. They can't be incarcerated in prisons that don't exist, and to jam them into already overcrowded facilities is an invitation to disaster."—*Editorial, The Los Angeles Times.*

EQUAL JUSTICE: "Justice has always been an arbitrary thing—often to the regret of people who find themselves facing a judge with a reputation for giving long sentences. Now Prince George's and Montgomery have joined some other Maryland counties in a one-year experiment intended to smooth out the inequities of this arbitrariness. Circuit court judges will use a list of standards for sentencing meant to ensure that crime is equally unrewarding for rich and poor, black and white, in every courtroom. The guide to criminal sentencing was written by a team of 10 judges under a

grant from the National Institute of Justice after a study of 1,800 cases in Maryland courts in 1979..."

"The uniformity of such a system has its appeal. But it is also true that there are circumstances that make what appear to be the same crimes committed by comparable people different—circumstances that also argue for different dispositions of their cases. In addition, with standards for sentencing based on the actual crime committed, it will be more difficult for prosecutors to plea-bargain cases in order to obtain convictions. Juries, too, may react in unpredictable ways..."

"Are such faults compensated for by the advantages of the free hand that judges are granted to vary from the standard if they have good reason? Supporters argue that this is the key difference between the guidelines being used in the counties and the mandatory sentences that others have proposed."

"It is an important difference, and it may be that sentencing standards are the tool that people concerned with increasing crime have been looking for. They can achieve some regularity in justice without losing the benefit of a judge or jury's discretion. The experiment in the counties bears close watching."—*Editorial, The Washington Post.*

DEVELOPING RELIABLE CRIME DATA: "The FBI has just issued its latest annual report on the incidence of crime, and the figures are—as always—upsetting. As measured by the FBI, crime increased by 9 per cent in 1980 over 1979. And, according to the FBI, only about one in five crimes resulted in an arrest."

"These are alarming statistics, but more alarming is what we do not know about crime. The FBI statistics, for all the attention given them, do not measure the incidence of crime very well. They depend upon people to report crime to police and upon the police to report it to the FBI. Studies in which people are polled to find out whether their lives have been touched by

crime—studies that themselves are not totally reliable—show different results, higher in some categories."

"As for the rate at which crimes are solved, accurate figures are devilishly hard to come by..."

"Even more difficult to find, and more important, are data on how the criminal justice system actually operates..."

"What little evidence is available suggests an enormous slippage between the report of a crime and the disposition of the case by a court..."

"At every level—local state, and federal—there should be a new emphasis on developing reliable statistical data. The FBI's figures are useful, so far as they go. But they do not go much further than telling us this about crime: that there is simply too much of it."—*Editorial, The Chicago Tribune.*

REALISTIC WORK FOR PRISONERS: "Specialists in criminal corrections contend that preparing offenders for employment after release from prison is an important part of rehabilitation. Producing license plates and other work in prison industries are not always helpful in providing job conditions that former convicts are likely to encounter again. A program in Kansas, which recently has been certified by the Justice Department to sell goods in interstate commerce and to the federal government, offers an exception..."

"Similar enterprises in Minnesota and Arizona have been approved by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. The objective is to encourage states to provide realistic work experiences for prisoners. Without job skills and employment opportunities, former inmates cannot earn a living. The temptation is to fall back into a pattern of crime. As the Kansas program indicates, proper preparation of inmates for their release to society can cut crime and also reduce the public costs for confinement of prisoners, which is what you might term having it both ways at the same time."—*Editorial, The Kansas City, Missouri, Times.*

November

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Calendar

January

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Jan. 1-Feb. 28: Basic Correctional Recruit Officers Training; **Jan. 4-8:** Defense Tactics; **Jan. 11-22:** Line Supervisor Class; and **Jan. 25-29:** Seminar: Mid-Management, all held in Tampa, Fla., and sponsored by the Hillsborough Community College Criminal Justice Institute. Contact: Francis J. Deangelis, Coordinator, Criminal Justice Institute, Hillsborough Community College, P.O. Box 22127, Tampa, Fla. 33622, 813/247-6641, ext. 245.

Jan. 4-8: Police Traffic Radar Instructor Course; **Jan. 11-Feb. 5:** Police Traffic Management; **Jan. 12-13:** Fuel Efficient Driving Instructor Course; **Jan. 20-22:** Strategies for Change in Law Enforcement; and **Feb. 1-4:** Improving Police Performance Appraisals, all held in Jacksonville, Fla., and sponsored by the Institute of Police Traffic Management. Contact: Institute of Police Traffic Management, University of North Florida, 4567 St. Johns Bluff Road, South, Jacksonville, Fla. 32216, 904/646-2722.

Jan. 4-29: Principles of Police Management; **Jan. 5-7:** Police Traffic Radar Course; **Jan. 6-8:** Cutback Management; **Jan. 11-15:** Police Traffic Radar Instructor Training and Planning and Operation of Small Transit Systems; **Jan. 11-29:** Motor Vehicle Traffic Management and Accident Prevention; **Jan. 18-22:** Vehicular Homicide Investigation Workshop, and **Jan. 27-29:** Vehicle Lamp Examination Workshop and Use of Deadly Force Seminar, all held in Evanston, Ill., and sponsored by The Traffic Institute. Contact: Registrar, The Traffic Institute, Northwestern University, 555 Clark Street, P.O. Box 1409, Evanston, Ill. 60204, 312/492-7245.

Jan. 11-14: Developing Police Computer Capabilities, Las Vegas, Nev.; **Jan. 11-15:** Public Information Function of the Police, San Francisco, Calif.; **Jan. 18-22:** Developing Administrative Staff Skills, Phoenix, Ariz.; and **Jan. 25-29:** Administration and Management of Small Police Departments, Orlando, Fla., and Police Facilities Planning and Design, Los Angeles, Calif., all sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of

Police. Contact: IACP, Professional Development Division, Eleven Firstfield Road, Gaithersburg, Md. 20878, 800/638-4085.

Jan. 18-20: Physical Security Workshop, Orlando, Fla., sponsored by the American Society for Industrial Security. Contact: American Society for Industrial Security, Educational and Seminar Programs Department, 2000 K Street, N.W., Suite 651, Washington, D.C. 20006, 202/331-7887.

Jan. 21-22: The Job of the Supervisor; **Jan. 27-28:** Crime Scene; and **Feb. 25-26:** Labor Relations as it Effects the Uniformed Forces, all held in New York City and sponsored by John Jay College of

Criminal Justice. Contact: Ms. Barbara Natow, Criminal Justice Center of John Jay College, 444 W. 56th Street, New York, N.Y. 10019, 212/247-1600.

Jan. 21-24: Jury Selection, Houston, Texas, sponsored by the National College for Criminal Defense. Contact: National College for Criminal Defense, College of Law, University of Houston, Houston, Texas 77004, 713/749-2283.

Feb. 1-5: Physical and Electronic Security, Louisville, Ky., sponsored by the National Crime Prevention Institute. Contact: Admissions, National Crime Prevention Institute, School of Justice Administration, Shelby Campus, University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky. 40292, 502/588-6987.

Feb. 9-11: 34th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Orlando, Fla. The focus of the meeting is "Fire and Arson." Contact: American Academy of Forensic Sciences, 225 South Academy Blvd., Colorado Springs, Colo. 80910, 303/596-6006.

Feb. 15-18: Surviving Tight Budgets and Scarce Resources: A Fundraising Symposium, Washington, D.C., sponsored by the National Youth Work Alliance. Contact: Lori Strumpf, National Youth Work Alliance, 1346 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, 202/785-0764.

Feb. 17-21: Ninth National Conference on Juvenile Justice, New Orleans, La., sponsored by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the National District Attorneys Association. Contact: National District Attorneys Association, 708 Pendleton Street, Alexandria, Va. 22314-1886.

Feb. 19-20: Street Survival Seminar, Brookfield, Ohio, sponsored by the Brookfield Police Department. Contact: Sgt. J.C. Mitchell, Brookfield Police Department, Box 21, 6844 Strimbu Drive, Brookfield, Ohio 44403, 216/448-4043.

Together.

You and your neighbors can help.

Write to: Crime Prevention Coalition, Box 6600, Rockville, Maryland 20850



TAKE A BITE OUT OF

A message from the Crime Prevention Coalition, this publication, and The Ad Council.

Ad Council



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Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
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Pittsburgh, PA 15213

people people people people

Frank J. Battaglia is the new commissioner of the Baltimore, Maryland, Police Department.

Mr. Battaglia began his career as a patrolman in the Baltimore Police Department in January, 1940.

From February, 1942 to September, 1945, he served in the U.S. Navy and was honorably discharged as a chief petty officer.



After his military service, Mr. Battaglia returned to the Baltimore Police Department. He was appointed inspector in 1962 and chief in 1966. In 1971, he was appointed deputy commissioner in charge of the Operations Bureau.

Edmund N. Carpenter, II, a partner in the Wilmington, Delaware, law firm of Richards, Layton, and Finger, has been elected president of the American Judicature Society. **Martha Redfield Wallace**, director of the Henry Luce Foundation in New York City, was elected chairman of the board.

Mr. Carpenter is a member of the American Bar Association House of

Delegates and past president of the Delaware Bar Association. He serves as chairman of the Delaware Judicial Nominating Commission and is a member of various advisory committees of the Delaware Supreme Court.

Mrs. Wallace is a member of the New York State Advisory Commission on the Administration of Justice and served on the board of directors of several major corporations. She also has served as an international economist for the U.S. Department of State.

The International Association of Women Police has selected **Officer Annelle Amaral**, of the Honolulu Police Department, as the 1981 Woman Officer of the Year.

Officer Amaral was appointed to the Honolulu Police Department in February 1975 and is currently assigned to the Community Relations Division.

She was cited for her work in establishing a rape prevention program in the department. Since October 1979, Officer Amaral has given over 500 lectures,



addressing more than 33,000 people, on rape prevention and awareness.

Randie L. Barthlome is the new president of the Idaho Crime Prevention Association.

Ms. Barthlome has served as a crime prevention officer with the Pocatello, Idaho, Police Department for the past seven years. She is currently director of the community services division.



Harry O. Lawson, director of the graduate program in judicial administration at the University of Denver College of Law, has received the eighth annual Warren E. Burger Award for distinguished contributions in the field of judicial administration.

The award was presented by the Institute for Court Management in Denver, Colorado.

Mr. Lawson was honored for "his pioneering efforts" as administrator of the Colorado state court system which, during his administration, adopted many reforms such as court unification, merit selection, and state funding.